



Horseheads Central School District



Golden Star Gazette



November 2023

Gardner Road Elementary School

541 Gardner Road, Horseheads, New York 14845 (607) 739 – 6347

ppatterson@horseheadsdistrict.com



Dear Gardner Road Families –

Happy November to all our Gardner Road families. We are looking forward to a great month with many great experiences for our Golden Stars. Our 2nd grade students have been working hard in music preparing for the Veterans Day concert on the evening of November 13th. If you have a Veteran that would like to attend the concert, please return the flyer (see attachment – a paper copy was sent home too). Our students will participate in our second annual Story Path Trot on November 17th with a theme of construction at Gardner Road. The PTO will be hosting Bowling Night on the 17th – be on the lookout for more details. This month we look forward to our Career Day on November 29th – thank you to the Career Development Council for coordinating our volunteers. Towards the middle of the month, information will come home to our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders about our annual Scripps Spelling Bee.

November is also time for parent-teacher conferences. Please see more information about this on page 2 of the newsletter. You should have received an email to sign up for a conference. If not, please reach out to your child’s teacher.

Our morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up routines are going smoothly. Just a friendly reminder in the morning to pull all the way up to the star on the fence if no cars are in front of you. This allows for the greatest number of cars to unload at the same time. Also, if you drop-off around 7:40, please wait until our staff member opens the door and is outside to ensure student safety.

We love seeing all our Golden Stars every day. Attendance is important and we hope for 100% attendance for every student. We become very concerned if a student is absent as they are missing out on learning. We monitor attendance closely and become concerned if a student becomes at risk to being chronically absent. The risk category for becoming chronically absent is defined as 5% absence which equals a total of 9 absences for the whole year or one absence a month. If a habit of absenteeism is formed, it becomes very difficult to break for a student. If the student is well, please be sure they are in school.

Be sure to check out our [school website](#) for updates and please keep up to date with the happenings at our school, by following our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. We look forward to seeing you throughout the school year at Gardner Road. Please contact me if you need anything, have questions, or would just like to chat about our school/your child.

Your Partner in Education,

Patrick Patterson - Principal



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Included in the Online Newsletter:

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Celebrating our Veteran’s Concert
Census Flyer
Home/School Connections
Digital Resource Questionnaire



GENERAL INFORMATION:

Gardner Road School Hours

8:00 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Tardy Bell – 8:15 AM

Gardner Road Office Hours

7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Elementary Lunches (K-6)

Breakfast and Lunch: Free

<https://horseheadscafeteria.gstboces.org/>

Proud Supporter of
School Matters!



Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Moishe’s Quote of the Month:

“Never let the fear of striking out stop you from playing the game.” – Babe Ruth



Explore Empower Excel

Gardner Road Main Office Updates:



Report Grades and Parent Teacher Conferences:

Parent-teacher conferences are on the afternoons of November 17th, 21st and 29th. We look forward to seeing all our parents visit their child's teacher to talk about their current and future learning. Just a friendly reminder that report cards are only distributed in 3rd and 4th grades this marking period. As you are meeting your child's teacher, please keep in mind what the 4,3,2,1 rating scale represents. If your child receives a '3' on the report card, that means they are currently meeting grade level expectations. A '4' would represent that your child is performing above grade level expectation. A '2' means that your child is working towards grade level expectation and a '1' represents that your child is struggling with the current grade level expectation.

School Delays and Closings:

The cold, slippery, white flakes are just around the corner. When the ice and snow arrive, it is often necessary to delay or close schools. The announcements can be found on our District website www.horseheadsdistrict.com and the local media stations. In the event of a 1 or 2-hour delay, students can be dropped off at the cafeteria entrance beginning at the adjusted time. Please be aware that **NO** breakfast is served when there is a 2-hour delay. I will also post our status on the Gardner Road Twitter feed which can be found on the school website. To sign up for the tweets, go to our school website and follow the link.

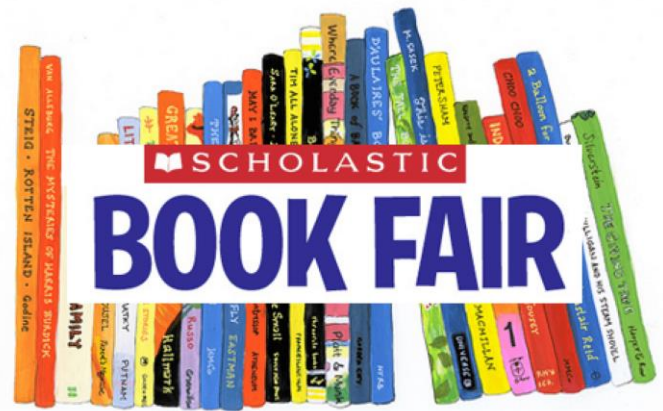
Recess:

Students will be going outside for recess as the weather becomes colder (20 degrees wind-chill and warmer). Please make sure that your child has a warm coat, a hat and gloves/mittens so they can stay warm as they play.

Spring New York Assessment Dates (Grades 3 & 4):

English Language Arts: April 10, 2024 and April 11, 2024
Math: May 7, 2024 and May 8, 2024

Thank you to the Horseheads Fire Department for teaching our students about fire safety at school and at home this past month!



Our Book Fair will be open in the library throughout Parent Teacher Conferences in November. Feel free to come down and shop while you are in the building for your child's conference! Students will have time to shop during the school day.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

The PTO is looking for volunteers. Click on the following link to sign up for a time. Thank you!

<https://signup.com/go/QgAzrnA>



October Snapshots



Check out more photos and events on our [Facebook Page!](#)



"We Succeed Because The Stars Lead!"

November's Character Trait is:

Character Education

Citizenship

- Help to make your community, school and world a better place
- Take responsibility for what goes on around you
- Participate in community service and help take care of the environment
- Treat others with respect and dignity



Character Matters
Horseheads Central School District

Be Kind, Be Strong, Be Well

Horseheads Central School District's Mission & Vision:



Horseheads Central School District sets the standard of educational excellence by fostering innovative thinking, curiosity, and a passion for learning to maximize the potential of each individual. We engage with our local and global communities to provide a student-centered, nurturing environment.

EXPLORE EMPOWER EXCEL

Golden Star Students United Against Bullying



To report child abuse or neglect
call toll free
1-800-342-3720 or
ocfs.ny.gov/main/cps

Thank you to our PTO for hosting a wonderful Pumpkin Decorating Night!



The Horseheads Central School District offers educational programs without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, marital status, military status, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, predisposing genetic characteristic, or disability, and provides equal access to applicable groups under the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Inquiries regarding this policy may be made to Caitlin DeFilippo, Title IX/DASA Coordinator, and Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; Anthony Gill, Co-Civil Rights Compliance Officer; or Kelly Squires, Section 504 Coordinator, Horseheads Central School District, One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845, (607) 739-5601.

The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for the Horseheads Central School District is Caitlin DeFilippo, director of Human Resources. If there is a complaint regarding discrimination, harassment or bullying of any student, the complaint should be filed with Caitlin DeFilippo at One Raider Lane, Horseheads, NY 14845; 607-739-5601, x4211, or cdefilippo@horseheadsdistrict.com. The Dignity Act Coordinator (DAC) for Gardner Road Elementary is Patrick Patterson. Complaints regarding discrimination, harassment, or bullying of any student should be referred to Patrick Patterson at (607) 739 - 6347.



Horseheads Central School District
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607-739-5601, x4295

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We need your input.

Please respond to the Horseheads Central School District Census at the link or QR code below — even if you do not have children in our schools. We need your response as we prepare to shift to three elementary schools in the 2025-2026 school year.

To respond, visit:

Horseheads.fyi/Census



What is the census?

The Horseheads Central School District regularly conducts a district-wide census. This year's census is especially important because the information we receive will assist us in developing elementary school boundary lines as we shift to three elementary schools - Big Flats, Gardner Road, and Ridge Road - at the start of the 2025-26 school year.

Why is Center Street Elementary closing?

After careful consideration of the educational experience of our students and the state of our buildings, the district made the decision to move to three elementary schools. The community supported this plan with the passing of the referendum on December 7, 2021. As one of the oldest buildings in the district, Center Street would require significant construction to upgrade the building to current state standards for an educational space for students. The building is safe for students as it is now, but any additional construction would require asbestos and lead abatement, incurring significant costs that would not be completely covered through state aid. The plan approved by voters includes phasing out Center Street for student use, but keeping the building for district offices and community use.

Which school will my child attend?

The district is working with a demographer to redraw the elementary school attendance boundary lines from four buildings to three. Your response on this census assists the demographer team with redrawing more balanced boundary lines that send students to the school closest to home when possible. A decision regarding the new boundary lines is expected by Summer 2024.

To submit your information, visit:

[Horseheads.fyi/Census](https://horseheads.fyi/Census)



If you would like a printed version of the census form or have a question, please email hts@horseheadsdistrict.com.





NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire

SchoolTool Parent Portal Instructions

Dear Horseheads Central School District Parents and Guardians:

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) requires that districts send a digital resources questionnaire to parents and guardians. This information is meant to assist the state and districts in providing resources to students and families. NYSED asks that you complete a questionnaire for each student in grades K-12 in your family. You can access the questionnaire by logging in to the Parent Portal at <http://gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads> and following the instructions below. If you do not yet have a Parent Portal account, you can request one using this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/zmB1NAWB8u>. If you have questions, please contact your school office. Thank you.

If using the mobile app
 (<http://gst1.schooltool.com/horseheads>): After logging in, tap FORMS at the top of the screen.

Student

NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire + Add Help

- From drop-down menu, select NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire.
- Click on the green plus icon to open the survey.

- Leave Start Date set to current date.
- Select appropriate response from drop-down menu next to each question.
- Click on the green save disk to save and submit your responses.
- Return to Home Screen, complete Survey for all students in the household.

Student

NYS Digital Resources Family Questionnaire Save Cancel Help

Start Date: 9/27/2022 End Date: 9/27/2022

Collecting accurate data regarding digital resource access for our New York students will greatly help educators to better serve their students and families. In order to accomplish this, the New York State Education Department is asking parents or guardians to complete a Digital Equity survey (for each student in the family) in grades Kindergarten – Grade 12. This survey will provide information on student access to devices and internet access in their places of residence. To assist us in this process, please answer each question below to the best of your ability and follow any additional instructions provided for submitting or returning the survey.

Thank you for your time and cooperation.

NOTE: You must answer at least one question for this survey to be valid.

Did the school district issue your child a dedicated school or district-owned device for their use during the school year?:
 None

What is the device your child uses most often to complete learning activities away from school? (This can be a school-provided device or another device, whichever the student is most often using to complete their schoolwork.)
 None

Who is the provider of the primary learning device identified in Question 2? (This can be a school-provided device or another device, whichever the student is most often using to complete their schoolwork.)
 None

Is the primary learning device (identified in Question 2) shared with anyone else in the household?:
 None

Is the primary learning device (identified in Question 2) sufficient for your child to fully participate in all learning activities away from school?:
 None

Is your child able to access the internet in their primary place of residence?:
 None

What is the primary type of internet service used in your child's primary place of residence?:
 None

In their primary residence, can your child complete the full range of learning activities, including video streaming and assignment upload, without interruptions caused by slow or poor internet performance?:
 None

What, if any, is the primary barrier to having sufficient and reliable internet access in your child's primary place of residence?:
 None

Report to **PARENTS**

Developing Healthy Habits in Kids that Last a Lifetime

Cold and flu season can be a challenging time for parents. With kids in close quarters at school, it can feel like germs are all around, at home and in the classroom. With the right strategies, you can help keep your family protected from illness-causing germs during the fall and winter seasons.

Teach Proper Cough and Sneeze Etiquette

Covering coughs and sneezes is crucial in preventing the spread of viruses and bacteria. Teach kids to cough or sneeze into their elbows or a tissue and dispose of the tissue properly. Lysol is proud to share a variety of resources aimed at making healthy habits education engaging and informational, including lesson plans, posters, and activities that can be used year-round. Visit [Lysol.com/HERE](https://www.lysol.com/HERE) to download the free resources and learn more.

Maintain a Disinfected Home Environment

When your kids come home from school, they can bring germs with them. Regularly disinfect frequently touched surfaces in your home, such as doorknobs, light switches, and remote controls throughout cold and flu season to help stop the spread of illness-causing germs. Lysol Disinfecting Wipes kill 99.9 percent of viruses and bacteria when used as directed and make it easy to clean and disinfect hard surfaces around the home on a regular basis.



Boost Immunity through Nutrition

Eating a well-balanced diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains, proteins, and dairy can give your child's immune system the strength it needs to ward off potential illnesses. When your kids are enjoying their after school snacks or family dinner, remember to reflect all of these food groups in their meals and remind your child about the importance of making healthy choices.

Stock Up on Essentials

There's no better time than cold and flu season to stock your home with essential products to help stop the spread of germs. In your child's school bag, you can provide a travel-sized pack of tissues for personal use and a small bottle of hand sanitizer to empower them to maintain cleanliness while at school and help cut back on pathogens they might bring home. In your home, keep disinfecting products like Lysol Disinfectant Spray and Lysol Disinfecting Wipes on hand so you are prepared when illness-causing germs enter your household.

November 2023



HORSEHEADS ELEMENTARY GRADES PK-4TH

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<p>JOIN US FOR NY MENU DAY! See menu for details</p>	<p>1 Chicken Alfredo w/Bread Cheeseburger on a Roll Steamed Broccoli Fresh Baby Carrots Fruity Jello w/Whipped Topping</p>	<p>2 Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	<p>3 Buffalo Wing Pizza Pepperoni Pizza Crispy Fish Filet Sandwich Sliced Carrots</p>
<p>6 Philly Cheese Steak Sub Baked Crispy Chicken Sandwich Sliced Carrots Oven Fries</p>	<p>7 Toasted Cheese Sandwich Chicken Ranch Wrap Hot Tomato Soup Green Beans</p>	<p>8 NY MENU DAY! Homemade NY Macaroni & Cheese Warm Dinner Roll NY Brussel Sprouts! NY Homemade Blueberry Crisp NY Juice! Chilled NY Milk</p>	<p>9 Beef or Bean Nacho Grande w/Rice Chicken Caesar Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	<p>10 NO SCHOOL</p> 
<p>13 Baked Mozzarella Sticks w/Pasta & Sauce Breaded Chicken Drumstick w/Breadstick Sliced Carrots</p>	<p>14 Sesame Chicken w/Rice NY Hot Dog on a Roll Green Beans</p>	<p>15 Cheese Pizza Crunchers w/Marinara Sauce Crispy Fish Filet Sandwich Sliced Carrots</p>	<p>16 Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	<p>17 HALF DAY NO LUNCH</p>
<p>20 Chicken Philly Sub Ultimate Cheese Breadstick w/Marinara Sauce Sliced Carrots Oven Fries</p>	<p>21 HALF DAY NO LUNCH</p>	<p>THANKSGIVING RECESS! NOVEMBER 22nd - 24th</p>		
<p>27 French Toast Sticks & Sausage Tater Tots Sliced Carrots</p>	<p>28 Chicken & Orange Sauce w/Rice NY Hot Dog on a Roll Green Beans</p>	<p>29 HALF DAY NO LUNCH</p>	<p>30 Chicken Soft Taco w/Rice Bean Taco w/Rice Chicken BLT Salad w/Bread Choice Golden Sweet Corn Refried Beans</p>	 <p>Make Online Payments at Payschoolcentral.com!</p>

Available Daily Entrees

PBJ Sandwich
Meat Chef Salad w/ Bread Choice
Vegetarian Chef Salad w/Bread Choice
NY Cheese Stick & Yogurt w/Bread Choice
Turkey & Cheese Sandwich
Ham & Cheese Sandwich
M/W/F: Baked Chicken Nuggets w/Bread
T/TH: Cheese Pizza

Available Daily Sides

Fresh Vegetables
Fresh Tossed Salad
Assorted Fruit
NY Chilled Milk
100% Fruit Juice
***Bread Choice = Soft Pretzel or Breadstick**

PRICING:

Breakfast & Lunch: \$0.00
Milk/Ala Carte Side: \$0.75
Snacks: \$0.75-\$1.50
NOTE: Every student receives 1 breakfast and 1 lunch at no charge per school day. Each breakfast & lunch must be a COMPLETE MEAL, or student will be charged ala carte for each item on their tray.

Breakfast Menu

Monday: Breakfast on a Stick
Tuesday: Cinnamon Roll
Wednesday: Breakfast Sandwich
Thursday: French Toast Sticks
Friday: Mini Pancakes
Daily Options: Bagel, Asst. Cereal, Goldfish Graham, Asst. Oatmeal, Muffin Top, Breakfast Oatmeal Bar, **NY Yogurt**, Asst. Fruit, 100% Fruit Juice & **Chilled NY Milk**

November 2023

Gardner Road Elementary School



Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
<p><u>Citizenship- Character Education at Home:</u> --Take your child with you to vote. Explain the process & why it is Important to you. --Thank a veteran in your family or neighborhood. --Teach your kids about the Star Spangled Banner/Pledge of Allegiance.</p>		<p>1 Day 4</p>		<p>2 Day 5</p>		<p>3 Day 6 Gardner Road Spirit Day Wear Blue & Gold</p>			
<p>6 Day 1</p>		<p>7 Day 2</p>		<p>8 Day 3</p>		<p>9 Day 4 End of MP 1</p>		<p>10 No School</p>	
<p>13 Day 5 Veterans Day Concert Performed by Grade 2 - HS Aud 7:00 PM</p>		<p>14 Day 6</p>		<p>15 Day 1 Principal Chat 5:30 GRPTO Meeting 6:00</p>		<p>16 Day 2 Report Cards Home for Grades 3 and 4 BOE Meeting MS 6:00</p>		<p>17 Day 3 Book Fair 11/17 - 11/29 Early Dismissal 11:00 GRPTO Bowling Night - GR 5:30 A-L, 6:15 M-Z</p>	
<p>20 Day 4 Book Fair 11/17 - 11/29 Open during P/T Conferences</p>		<p>21 Day 5 Science Assemblies Early Dismissal 11:00</p>		<p>22 No School</p>		<p>23 No School</p>		<p>24 No School</p>	
<p>27 Day 6</p>		<p>28 Day 1</p>		<p>29 Day 2 Early Dismissal—11:00</p>		<p>30 Day 3</p>		<p>Dec 1st Day 4</p>	